REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In section 2 of the Office Action, the abstract of the disclosure is objected to because the length exceeds 150 words. Accordingly, the abstract is being corrected as indicated above. Applicants respectfully submit that the corrected abstract overcomes the objection in the Office Action and respectfully requests that the objection to the abstract be withdrawn.

Various claims are being amended as shown above. The claim amendments clarify the claim language and are not intended to limit the scope of the claims, unless the claim language is expressly quoted in the following remarks to distinguish over the cited art.

In section 5 of the office action, claims 1-2, 5-7, 10-12, 15-17, 20-21, 24, and 29-32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Boukobza (USP 6,122,664). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Independent claim 1 is being amended to recite the limitations previously recited in claim 24, and therefore, the amendment to claim 1 does not raise new issues.

Claim 1 distinguishes over Boukobza at least by reciting a method, including "determining a need to reconfigure one or more said components based upon a *health status message* from an *agent in a computer platform* to a *Distributed Administrator in the computer platform*, based upon a process schedule check of the computer platform by

the Distributed Administrator, or based upon a **health status message** from each **Distributed Administrator** to the **Central Administrator; wherein the Distributed Administrator is a process manager for a process of the agent"**.

In contrast, Boukobza discloses an autonomous agent (SAA) in node N1 and a separate management node, where the autonomous agent sends "useful information" to the separate management node. (see Figure 1 and column 2, lines 39-46). Boukobza does not disclose nor suggest a method where a **health status message** is sent from an **agent in a computer platform** to a **Distributed Administrator in the same computer platform**, or where a **health status message** is from each **Distributed Administrator** to the **Central Administrator**, as substantially recited in amended claim 1. Boukobza further does not disclose nor suggest a method, where "**the Distributed Administrator is a process manager for a process of the agent**", as substantially recited in amended claim 1.

Accordingly, claim 1 is patentable over Boukobza.

Similarly, independent claims 6, 11, 16, and 29 have been amended to recite the limitations of claim 24. Accordingly, for at least the reasons discussed above, claims 6, 11, 16, and 29 are each patentable over Boukobza.

Claims 2, 5, 7, 10, 12, 15, 17, 20-21, and 30-32 depend from various ones of claims 1, 6, 11, 16, and 29 and are each patentable over Boukobza for at least the same reasons that their respective base claim is patentable over Boukobza. These various dependent claims 2, 5, 7, 10, 12,

15, 17, 20-21, and 30-32 further distinguishes over Boukobza by reciting additional features.

Accordingly, each of the claims 2, 5, 7, 10, 12, 15, 17, 20-21, and 30-32 is patentable over Boukobza.

For the above reasons, Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102.

In section 6 of the office action, claims 1-39 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Jarriel, et al. (USP 6,553,403). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

As previously mentioned above, independent claim 1 is being amended to recite the limitations previously recited in claim 24, and therefore, the amendment to claim 1 does not raise new issues.

Claim 1 distinguishes over Jarriel at least by reciting a method, including "determining a need to reconfigure one or more said components based upon a **health status message** from an **agent in a computer platform** to a **Distributed Administrator in the computer platform**, based upon a process schedule check of the computer platform by the Distributed Administrator, or based upon a **health status message** from each **Distributed Administrator** to the **Central Administrator; wherein the Distributed Administrator is a process manager for a process of the agent"**.

In contrast, Jarriel discloses a runtime environment (Figure 5) installed at a managed computer 16 (Figure 1), where an event routing module 52b (Figure 5) in a

distributed monitor (in managed computer 16) sends an event to convey status change of a monitored object. Jarriel only discloses the routing of events to locations that are internal or external to a distributed monitor within the runtime environment. Jarriel does not disclose nor suggest a method where a **health status message** is sent from an **agent in a computer platform** to a **Distributed Administrator in the same computer platform**, or where a **health status message** is from each **Distributed Administrator** to the **Central Administrator**, as substantially recited in amended claim 1. Jarriel further does not disclose nor suggest a method, where "**the Distributed Administrator is a process manager for a process of the agent**", as substantially recited in amended claim 1.

Accordingly, claim 1 is patentable over Jarriel.

Similarly, independent claims 6, 11, 16, and 29 have been amended to recite the limitations of claim 24. Accordingly, for at least the reasons discussed above, claims 6, 11, 16, and 29 are each patentable over Jarriel.

Claims 2, 5-7, 10, 12, 15, 17, 20-23, 25-28, and 30-39 depend from various ones of claims 1, 6, 11, 16, and 29 and are each patentable over Jarriel for at least the same reasons that their respective base claim is patentable over Jarriel. These various dependent claims 2, 5-7, 10, 12, 15, 17, 20-23, 25-28, and 30-39 further distinguishes over Jarriel by reciting additional features.

Accordingly, each of the claims 2, 5-7, 10, 12, 15, 17, 20-23, 25-28, and 30-39 is patentable over Jarriel.

For the above reasons, Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102.

For the above reasons, Applicants respectfully request allowance of all pending claims.
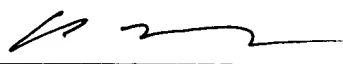
If the undersigned attorney has overlooked a teaching in any of the cited references that is relevant to the allowability of the claims, the Examiner is respectfully requested to specifically point out where such teachings may be found.
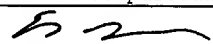
CONTACT INFORMATION

If the Examiner has any questions or needs any additional information, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney at (805) 681-5078.

Date: __April 20, 2004__

Respectfully submitted,
Kester Lijen Fong, et al.

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